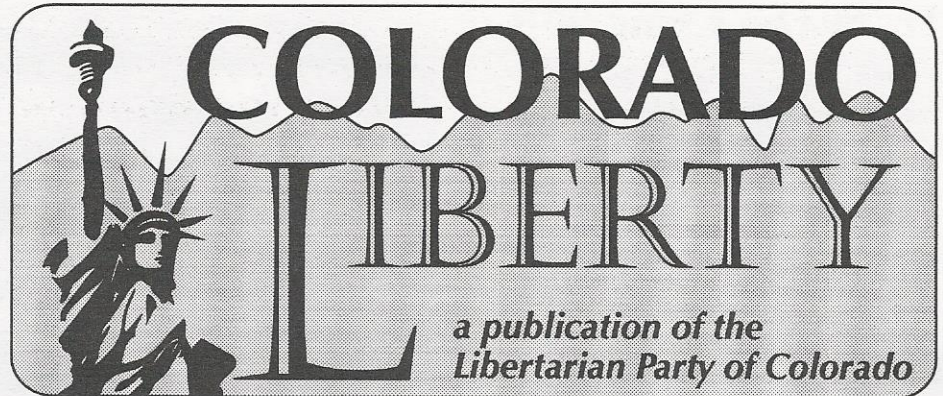


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Volume XIX, Number 11  
<http://www.pageplus.com/~lpcolorado/>

November/December 1998

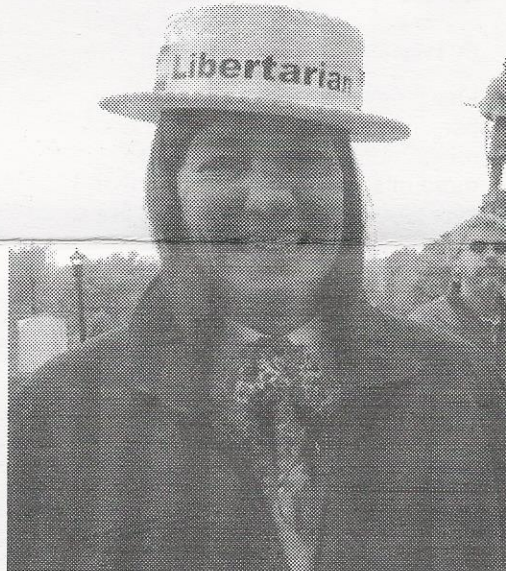
# Libertarians *ARE* the Difference

by Sandra Johnson (pictured at right)

It makes no significant difference whether the Democrat or the Republican won the election. Both of these parties deliver bigger government. Our freedoms erode steadily under both Democrat and Republican administrations. Now that the Libertarian Party has affected the outcome of the recent election, perhaps those tired old parties will start considering our ideas.

Republicans have been the majority in the Colorado legislature for the past 40 years, yet Colorado government has grown vastly bigger. It has **doubled** in just the last 10 years.

Which Party is the only one which stood against Guide the Ride last fall? The **Libertarian** Party! Which Party is the only one which stood against the



government keeping the "tax surplus" (Referendum B)? The **Libertarian** Party! Which party ignored the Constitution and put Referendum. B on the ballot? The Republican Party (the majority in the Colo. legislature) Which Party is the only one to stand against the stadium tax? The **Libertarian** Party!

Which Party is the **only** one which stands against the insane war on drugs; higher taxes and more regulations; socialized schools; socialized medicine; socialized retirement plans; totalitarian government; or the government violating our Bill of Rights? The **Libertarian** Party!

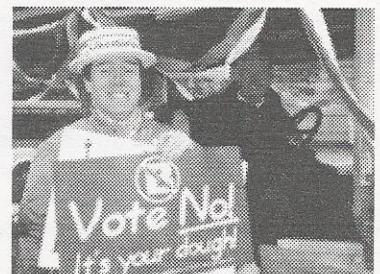
Totalitarianism is inevitable if most people believe that government's proper role is to solve all their problems, **and** that government should have those powers.

It's time for new ideas for a new century! It's time for prosperity and freedom! It's time to reclaim our heritage of freedom! It's time for the Party that stands for limited government, individual liberty, and personal responsibility. It's time for the **Libertarian** Party!

Sandra Johnson was the Libertarian candidate for Governor of Colorado



Candidates brave the cold on the steps of Colorado's Capitol.





## From The Chair

The Libertarian Party of Colorado is enjoying wonderful results from this year's election. Bill Masters, Libertarian for Sheriff in San Miguel county, was re-elected while running an active campaign against the War on Drugs. Libertarian volunteers helped to defeat Referendum B and protect the Tabor amendment one more time. Other wins for Libertarians in Colorado included Amendment 11, which could have made all abortions illegal in Colorado; Referendum A, which would have given government influence over private health care; the two water amendments, #15 and #16; and several smaller wins in other cities.

Will Rogers once said, "One revolution is like one cocktail. It just gets you organized for the next." Well, we've had our revolution, an unprecedented number of candidates on the ballot, more media coverage than ever before, and significant influence in several races. Now let us take what we can from that revolution and prepare for the year 2000.

The candidates who worked so hard this campaign season to get our name out there, to introduce new people to the party, and to make friends with the media and debate organizers have paved the way for all the candidates to come. I applaud these generous people for putting their lives on hold long enough to solidify the foundation of the Libertarian Party of Colorado. Their sacrifice of time and money will be returned to us tenfold, if we have the courage to follow through with their dreams. Continuous effort is the key to unlocking our potential in the year 2000. If we rest on our laurels, they will surely wilt.

We have discovered new things about ourselves and our competition. We know what it takes to put on a winning campaign. Now is the time to look for those who will win elections in 2000. Now is the time to find those men and women who will work behind the scenes. Now is the time to find the managers who will organize the campaigns. Now is the time to join us as we build for a bigger and better revolution. It's not about where we are; it's about where we are going.

*Michele Bethke, State Chair Libertarian Party of Colorado*



*Chair Michele Bethke speaks to the crowd on the Capitol steps November 1.*

## A View From the Campaign Trail

*By Wayne White*

I have never run for political office. Surprisingly, my campaign has been much more enjoyable and much more of a learning experience than I ever would have imagined. I'd like to share some of my experiences with you.

### JULY

I file my candidate paperwork with the Colorado Secretary of State's Office on July 13. Within a week, I receive a letter from the Colorado Union of Taxpayers asking me to sign their Candidate's Pledge. I am delighted to sign a pledge to limit government spending, limit taxes, support privatization of government departments, and defend private property rights. I sign and return the pledge.

### AUGUST

On August 7, the Libertarian Party holds a press conference at the Denver Press Club to introduce candidates to the media. Although the Libertarian Party is fielding 26 candidates for state and federal office, only one reporter showed up. Media indifference to our candidates will be a problem throughout the campaign. Various candidates give speeches and a party member takes a group picture of the candidates. The picture later appears on the cover of the national

newspaper, *Libertarian Party News*.

Invitations to candidate forums begin to arrive in the mail from various organizations, including State Farm Insurance, various neighborhood organizations, and League of Women Voters organizations throughout the state. I also receive candidate questionnaires from several newspapers.

On August 12, the *Rocky Mountain News* publishes a "preview of the November ballot" with the headline "The November matchups: Here are the candidates who will face each other in the general election." The "ballot preview" contains no mention of any third-party candidates. I write a letter to the editor that day. Among other things, my letter says that our political system would benefit from the competition of third parties that offer alternatives to the status quo. I point out that the Republican and Democratic parties have been losing membership for many years, while the Libertarian party has experienced "large increases in membership and voter registration both in Colorado and nationwide." I conclude by saying that "Its time that your newspaper started to recognize political realities and stopped perpetuating the status quo." The *News* publishes the letter on August 24.

### SEPTEMBER

Early in September, the *News* publishes a column by Charles Roos entitled "Libertarians are, and ever will be, a party of the future." In that column, Roos says "Yes, I saw the

*(continued page 4, third column)*



# Calendar

## November, 1998

- 11/21 - Sat - **Denver Breakfast Group** - 8:00am - LePeep, Mexico and Colorado Blvd, Denver, call David Aitken, 303-831-4334, e-mail.
- 11/24 - Tue - **Boulder Activists Lunch** - noon - Turley's - 2350 Arapahoe Ave, call Ken Kirkmeyer, 303-774-0775.
- 11/28 - Sat - **Denver Breakfast Group** - 8:00am - LePeep, Mexico and Colorado Blvd, Denver, call David Aitken, 303-831-4334, e-mail.

## December, 1998

- 12/1 - Tue - **Larimer County Activist breakfast** - First Tuesday - 7am - Joe's Fireside Cafe, 238 S. College Ave., Fort Collins. Contact: Lee Smith (970) 635-0395.
- 12/1 - Tue - **Boulder Activists Lunch** - noon - Turley's - 2350 Arapahoe Ave, call Ken Kirkmeyer, 303-774-0775
- 12/3 - Thu. - **Libertarian Community of Jefferson County** - 1st Thursday - 6:00pm - Tom Goonan's home: 12895 W. 16th Drive, Golden, CO 80401, snack and conversation at 6:00pm, call Tom Goonan, (303) 278-1698.
- 12/5 - Sat - **Denver Breakfast Group** - 8:00am - LePeep, Mexico and Colorado Blvd, Denver, call David Aitken, 303-831-4334, e-mail.
- 12/7 - Mon - **Board of Directors** - First Monday - 7:00pm - Party Office, 720 E 18th Ave #309, Denver, Co. All members welcome. Public comment 6:45pm and 9:00pm.
- 12/8 - Tue - **Boulder Activists Lunch** - noon - Turley's - 2350 Arapahoe Ave, call Ken Kirkmeyer, 303-774-0775.
- 12/9 - Wed - **Boulder LP Board Meeting** - 2nd Wednesday - 6:30pm - Trillian's, 30th and Arapahoe, call Ken Kirkmeyer, 303-774-0775.
- 12/12 - Sat - **Denver Breakfast Group** - 8:00am - LePeep, Mexico and Colorado Blvd, Denver, call David Aitken, 303-831-4334 or e-

mail daitken@tde.com.

- 12/15 - Tue - **Boulder Activists Lunch** - noon - Turley's - 2350 Arapahoe Ave, call Ken Kirkmeyer, 303-774-0775.
- 12/19 - Sat - **Denver Breakfast Group** - 8:00am - LePeep, Mexico and Colorado Blvd, Denver, call David Aitken, 303-831-4334 or e-mail daitken@tde.com.
- 12/21 - Mon - **Ft. Collins Activists** - 3rd Monday - 7:00pm - China Dragon, 1401 W. Elizabeth, Fort Collins. Contact Dan Cochran (970) 667-7557.
- 12/22 - Tue - **Boulder Activists Lunch** - noon - Turley's - 2350 Arapahoe Ave, call Ken Kirkmeyer, 303-774-0775.
- 12/26 - Sat - **Denver Breakfast Group** - 8:00am - LePeep, Mexico and Colorado Blvd, Denver, call David Aitken, 303-831-4334 or e-mail daitken@tde.com.
- 12/29 - Tue - **Boulder Activists Lunch** - noon - Turley's - 2350 Arapahoe Ave, call Ken Kirkmeyer, 303-774-0775.

## January, 1999

- 1/2 - Sat - **Denver Breakfast Group** - 8:00am - LePeep, Mexico and Colorado Blvd, Denver, call David Aitken, 303-831-4334 or email daitken@tde.com.

## Kudos

- Kudos to David Sierra, the photographer of October's pictures of the Great Western Slope Pick-in.
- Kudos to Robin Sharp, who was erroneously referred to as "Robin George" in last month's *Liberty*, for her support of Warren Kruse and liberty generally.
- Triple kudos to Carol Simard for her delightful "Libertarian of the Year" banquet.
- Kudos to David Segal for taking the bull by the horns and organizing the Capitol Steps Rally on November 1.
- Kudos to all the candidates who worked mightily to advance the cause of liberty in Colorado.

## Join Our Hot List!

A new hotlist has been set up. Since the previous list was not recoverable, we request that you go to our website at <http://www.pageplus.com/~lpcolorado> and sign up again. We regret any inconvenience this may cause.



## Colorado Liberty

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### Colophon:

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# Unified Membership Program

by BetteRose Smith

About one and a half years ago, the Colorado Libertarian Party joined with the National Libertarian Party into the UMP, the Unified Membership Program. National has taken on the role of asking people to renew, contacting people who inquire about the party, and providing outreach efforts through direct mail in exchange for a higher share of our members' dues. The cost of a member's dues in Colorado went from \$30 a year for membership in both the state and national party to \$25 per year. The state party receives \$12 a year from the payment of these dues.

This is less than we received before the UMP, but now we do not incur the costs of sending reminders, information packets, or outreach material. Our state receives a monthly check from national, a payment of one dollar per dues paying member. We receive a slightly higher payment for those members who are at a higher membership level or who pledge through the national party (see the chart below).

There have been questions about renewals. All renewal letters will come from National and all dues should be paid to National. An exception would be if a person does NOT want to join at the national level. These people may send their dues to the state party, but they must let us know that they do not want to be a member of the national party.

How does a member know that membership is up-to-date or properly registered? If you are receiving the *Colorado Liberty* with a first class stamp, then you are considered current in your dues. It takes time for changes to come through but if you think you should be current and are receiving the *Liberty* by bulk mail, please contact Deb Bishop, our Information Director.

Pledge and donation programs work differently from the membership program. If you are a pledger to the national party, your dues will be dealt with at that level. If you are a Colorado pledger, your must let David Bryant

know if you want your dues to be paid for through pledge payments. Some of us pledge at both levels, so automatically sending dues would be a duplication.

The following is the formula National uses to determine how much is returned to the state party from donations, pledges, and dues:

Donations/dues: Paid to Colorado

\$25 -\$50: \$1 per month (\$12 per year)

\$50 -\$250: \$2 per month (\$24 per year)

\$250-\$500: \$3 per month (\$36 per year)

\$500 and above: \$4 per month (\$48 per year)

Some members believe that Colorado receives half the pledge money National receives. As you can see this is not true. The **most** Colorado will get from any donation or pledge will be \$48. I was surprised by this and changed my pledges so more money stays here in Colorado.

The UMP program has allowed Colorado to budget expenses because we receive a regular check from National at the same time each month. It has taken a burden away from the board of directors in the form of sending reminders and follow-up letters, a difficult task when there is no regular staff person.

If you have any questions about the UMP concerning dues, pledges, how your money is being shared, or about your membership, please contact either Deb Bishop or David Bryant.

*BetteRose Smith is the Fund-Raising Director of the Libertarian Party of Colorado*

## Gubernatorial Punditry

by David Bryant

As an aspiring pundit, I have been reading the papers anxiously to see if anyone else would notice the single most interesting fact about this year's gubernatorial election in Colorado. So far I haven't seen it in print. Here it is.

For the first time in the history of Colorado, the female candidates for governor have outpolled their male counterparts.

Here are the figures:

Schoettler/Johnson: 661,186

Owens/Leonard: 657,964

Like everything else about the race, this comparison comes out pretty close. And since I'm only an amateur pundit, I don't have any clear idea what it means beyond the obvious fact itself. Are we in for a kinder, gentler Colorado? Will the civilizing influence of the female mystique be felt more strongly within the halls of government than ever before? Will everyone rush to nominate women in 2002? Only time will tell.

*David C. Bryant is Treasurer of the Libertarian Party of Colorado and was the Libertarian candidate for State Treasurer*

### Campaign Trail

(continued from page 2)

Libertarian's letter to the editor last month claiming that the party had made 'large increases' in registration." He then admits that in the last decade Libertarian party registration increased by 199%. However, he says, there were only 3,087 registered Libertarians at primary time this year, and "the party is so tiny it has no real impact on Colorado politics." He also says that the party peaked with 2.2 percent of the vote in the presidential election in 1980.

If Mr. Roos' figures are correct, then the Colorado Libertarian party has experienced a 14% increase in registration in just the last two months since Mr. Roos wrote his column, as the current registration is over 3,600. Also, recent poll statistics (Harris poll) show Libertarian Gubernatorial candidate Sandra Johnson has 4.6% support in a four-way race. In my opinion, Mr. Roos is a dinosaur — he and many members of his generation cling to the past and are extremely reluctant to acknowledge change.

On September 5th and 7th, I give my first campaign speeches at the Boulder Hometown Fair. A kindly





A group of raving Libertarians gathered in Boulder for a sleepless night of communicating Libertarianism to the attendees at a truncated rave. The Boulder Police shut it down prematurely because of reports of "noise." David Aitken, Carol Simard and Michele Bethke were some of the Libertarians at the booth.

gentleman from the audience tells me after my first speech that he has heard plenty of politicians say that they are pro-choice on abortion, but he says he has never heard a politician say that he is "pro-abortion." Red-faced, I thank him. I feel like I have a lot to learn, but fortunately, it turns out to be my only misstep of the campaign, and a minor one at that.

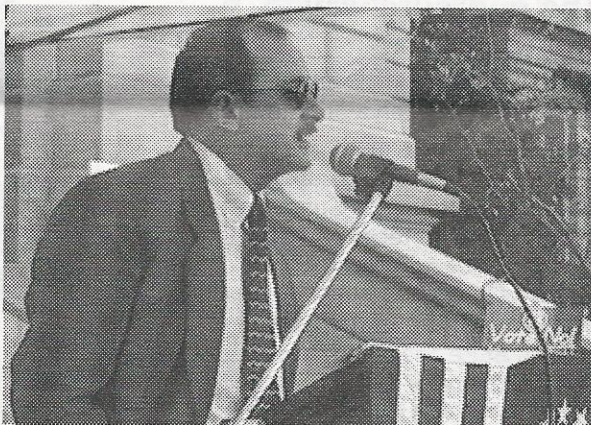
On September 12, 1998 I attend a candidate reception at the University of Denver Humanities Garden, sponsored by the Colorado Women's Agenda. The reception is well-attended by both candidates and representatives of various women's organizations. My Republican opponent, John Suthers, arrives at the reception and introduces himself to me. He walks directly up to me and somehow knows who I am, even though none of the newspapers has yet published my photo. I am pleased to meet Mr. Suthers, and we have a pleasant conversation.

On September 14, the *Denver Post* runs an article on the front page entitled "Third parties spice up state campaigns." The article quotes David Segal, Libertarian candidate for U.S. Senate, names the federal and statewide candidates, including me, and is generally a very favorable article for Libertarians.

On September 15 at 3:43 a.m. I fax my questionnaire answers to the *Denver Post*. My response to the

questionnaire is a little past the deadline, but timely. I'm beginning to lose sleep as the campaign gears up and my burgeoning law practice requires increasing effort to stay current.

In the meantime, my life partner



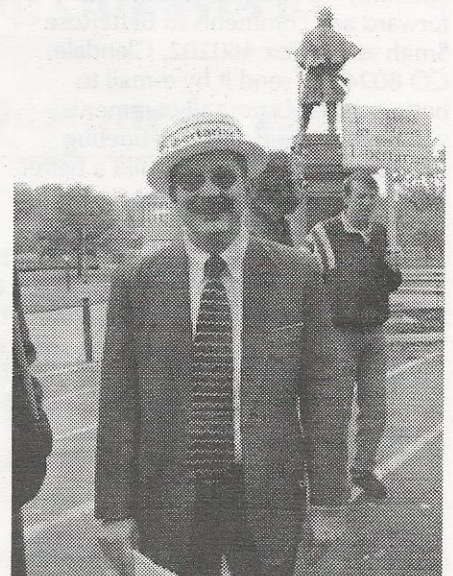
Wayne White campaigning in front of Colorado's Capitol building.

and campaign manager Michael Christopher contacts various Colorado gay and lesbian organizations, asking if they are endorsing candidates. The only organization providing coverage of the election is Equality Colorado. I speak with a woman at Equality, and she faxes me a questionnaire and tells me that the deadline for returning my answers is the next day. I answer the questionnaire immediately, supporting among other things, equal rights for gays and lesbians and same-sex marriage. I later learn that after receiving my answers, Equality extended the deadline for responding to the questionnaire and sent the questionnaire to all third party

candidates. Equality later offers to print an extra fifty copies of their voters' guide for me to distribute at campaign events.

In general, I am amazed at the open-minded attitude of the gay and lesbian community. I have always viewed gays and lesbians as overwhelmingly and staunchly Democratic. Nonetheless, my campaign receives significant support from the gay and lesbian community, and due to Michael's efforts, my campaign signs begin showing up in the windows of gay establishments and in the yards of residents throughout the Capitol Hill neighborhood. Unique of Denver donates a substantial quantity of rainbow stickers, and we put those stickers on many of my campaign signs.

Wayne's article will be continued in the next issue of the *Liberty*.





# Campaign Feedback Needed

by BetteRose Smith

Now that the dust is beginning to settle from this election cycle, it is time to take stock and see what we have learned. There will be several debriefing meetings over the next two months. Feedback on campaigns is desperately needed. One goal of the Libertarian Party of Colorado is to establish "institutional memory" so we don't have to relearn everything each election cycle. We need to know what has worked and what has not worked so we can run better, smoother campaigns in 2000.

Strategy is being laid for the year 2000 election. Feedback from candidates, campaign workers, and members is necessary to create the best possible plans. Examples of feedback are:

- Our signs might be more readable if they were reverse color (white on colored background).
- Someone wanted signs that simply read "Vote for Freedom, Vote Libertarian." Is this a good investment?
- Buying print ads early may encourage papers to cover our races.
- I never heard what was going on until it was too late. Can we increase communication?

If you have anything that may help, whether a compliment or a criticism, we need to hear it. Please forward any comments to BetteRose Smith at PO Box 460202, Glendale, CO 80246 or send it by e-mail to betterose@aol.com. All comments will be addressed at the debriefing meetings. Please help us build a better party and run stronger campaigns with your observations and comments.

*BetteRose Smith is the Fund-Raising Director of the Libertarian Party of Colorado*



*Judd Ptak receiving the Libertarian of the Year award from David Bryant at a banquet in Colorado Springs organized by Carol Simard. The banquet also featured speeches by Douglas Bruce and Marshall Fritz.*

## Relentless Incrementalism!

### The only sure way to change

by Michael Simpson

Here's some news to cheer everyone up a bit. We had a very substantial Libertarian vote in the Gunnison area. In my HR race, I received 7% of the votes in District #61 and 16.9% of the votes in Gunnison County. I actually won with 46.59% of the votes in Crested Butte and in Mt. Crested Butte with similar percentages.

This area was ripe for the Libertarian Party and all of our efforts paid off.

Grassroots movements such as ours are furthered one person at a time. I think that we all deserve a pat on the back. We put a lot of candidates on the ballot and we spread the word in a very large way. We're in this for the long haul because we know it's the best choice available at the present time. I hope "the masses" will wake up and see the light soon.

I'm very proud to be a part of this organization. I know how hard all of you have worked for this cause and I am extremely thankful for each and everyone of you. We are small in number but big in tenacity and fortitude.

*Michael Simpson was the Libertarian candidate for State House District 61*

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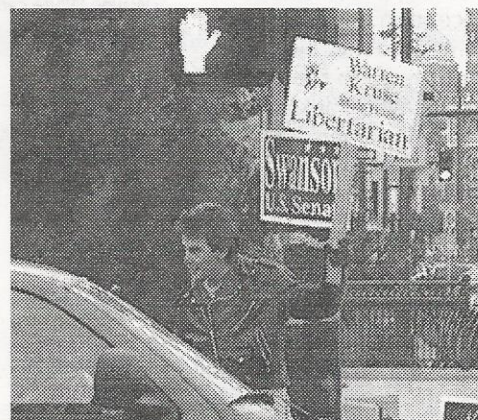
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*Candidate Warren Kruse waves his sign for the commuters at 6th and Lincoln in Denver.*



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## The Results

### Congressional Candidates:

US Senate: David Segal, Denver: 14,086 1.1%

US House 1: Richard Combs, Denver: 5225 3.00%

US House 3: Barry Maggert, Carbondale: 5644 2.4%

### Statewide Candidates

Governor: Sandra Johnson, Fort Garland: 22,106 1.7% - (More than the margin of difference between D & R) 4-way

Lt Governor: Dan Cochran, Loveland: (see gov)

Secretary of State: Geoffrey Lloyd, Denver: 31,695 2.5% 6-way

Treasurer: David Bryant, Denver: 29,440 2.3% 4-way

Attorney General: Wayne White, Jr, Denver: 32,686 2.6% (more than the margin of difference between D & R)

### State Representative Candidates

HD 2: Timothy Lloyd, Denver: 1,497 16.32% (2-way)

HD 3: Kurtis Klinghammer, Denver: 424 2.95%

HD 4: Warren Kruse, Denver: 2,037 16.89% (2-way)

HD 5: David Aitken, Denver: 516 4.82%

HD 6: Doug Anderson, Denver: 3,229 17.85% (2-way)

HD 8: Walter Schlomer, Denver: 558 3.82%

HD 11: Michael Perkins, Boulder: 969 4.2%

HD 12: Ken Kirkmeyer, Boulder: 534 2.8%

HD 18: Jeff McQueen, Colo Springs: 477 2.19%

HD 27: Lloyd Sweeny, Arvada: 683 2.87% (more than the margin of difference between D & R)

HD 31: Earl Allen, Thornton: 556 2.4% (more than the margin of difference between D & R)

HD 37: Christopher Smith, Greenwood Village: 513 2.31%

HD 43: Randall Phelps, Aurora : 2,154 17.73% (2-way)

HD 56: Kathy Romack, Walden: 1097 5.1%

HD 57: Brent Shroyer, Rangely: 2905 15.0% (2-way)

HD 60: Robert Johnson, Fort Garland: 354 2.0%

HD 61: Michael Simpson, Gunnison: 1581 6.9% - Best 3-way percentage

Congratulations to all the candidates. You did make a difference!

## Why Run for Public Office?

by David Bryant

Why should a rational Libertarian ever run for public office? The chance of success seems so small, and the time and effort necessary to mount a decent campaign so large. Don Quixote himself would rather stay at home than pursue this particular unreachable star. At least that's the way the conventional wisdom runs.

Having just completed a grueling campaign for the State Treasurer's spot, I think I'm qualified to address the question. Winning the election isn't everything. Winning the hearts and minds of Americans is. Let me explain.

About 5:00 pm on Friday, October 30th, I was standing on the northwest corner of Lincoln and Speer, just across the street from Channel 7's studios. Several of us were there with our "B, Vote No, It's your Dough" signs at Jon Caldara's behest. We did get a few pictures on the evening news.

I distinctly recall Bonnie Ferguson's anger with state GOP headquarters. HQ had promised to send a dozen Republican activists to help with the photo op for the "No on B" campaign. But when those worthies arrived they announced that they were campaigning for Mr. Bill Owens, and their candidate did not wish to be too closely associated with a sordid concept like defending TABOR. That left only five of us, three Republicans and two Libertarians, doing our best to look brave and dignified for the news cameras.

So I was standing there on the street corner, and had in fact just finished posing for the cameraman while spouting slogans like "You're in the black, so give the money back, Jack!" when a big black guy came ambling across the street. I introduced myself. He said his name was Willie Jackson. We traded pleasantries.

I was holding two signs. One said "B Vote No", and the other said "David Bryant, State Treasurer, Libertarian." Willie took a step backwards and eyed my signs. "I'll definitely vote no," he said. "I want my money back. But I'm not so sure about those politicians."

My friend Bette Rose stepped up.

"But David's not a politician," she said sweetly. "That's him, standing right there. He's holding his own sign. Does he look like a politician?"

"That's you?" Willie couldn't hide his surprise. "You don't look like a politician. So why are you running for public office?"

"Because I'm tired of being pushed around by the government, Willie," I responded. "I want to get the government off your back and out of your wallet. I'm sick of taxes that are too high and I've had it with their nitpicking laws that say people who just want to have a good time are criminals. I say it's time for people like you and me to take our country back."

Willie looked at me thoughtfully. "Do you mean to say that you honestly intend to make the phrase 'free American' something more than an oxymoron?" he finally asked.

"Yes!" I cried delightedly. "That's exactly what I want to do."

"Well, I'll pull your lever then," Willie said pleasantly. And he walked on off up the street with a small bundle of Libertarian brochures in his hands.

A person can get mighty discouraged campaigning on the Libertarian ticket. Sometimes it seems like it's all uphill. And then a guy like Willie Jackson comes along and reminds me why I'm doing this.

People can call the Libertarian Party a small party, or a minor party, or even a radical party. But they should never refer to us as a lesser party. The ideas we champion, and the ideals we embody in our strict adherence to a philosophy of limited government, individual liberty, and personal responsibility, are the greatest concepts in the history of political thought. Our battle is for the hearts and minds of men. And we are winning that battle one heart and one mind at a time.

*David Bryant is Treasurer of the Libertarian Party of Colorado*





# Campaigns: Reaping Results

by BetteRose Smith

This has been the best campaign year the Colorado Libertarian Party has seen yet. With over 2 dozen candidates on the ballot, dozens of news stories, our answers to surveys being printed, and even some endorsements, the Colorado Party is working its way into the mainstream politics of this state. We had many successes this cycle, no matter how the vote totals have turned out.

We were invited to debates with candidates of the major parties -- and even though we were excluded more than we were included, to be included at all is a REAL accomplishment. We have been on the radio; though not as much as the major candidates, but to be on the airwaves as an invited guest is a real beginning. Articles written about us ranged from very good to slightly poor, but none of the ones I saw painted us as lunatics from a fringe militia.

Our campaigns "plowed the fields", getting the people of Colorado ready for the seeds we will sow in the 2000 elections. Our hope is to reap REAL change in 2004. While we plan to reap our major benefits in 2004, we cannot complain about the benefits we are reaping along the way. Every time a candidate speaks to a group, every time we have a representative on the radio, and every time there is a favorable article written about us, we gain the respect of 'other' people. Each time we defeat a tax, increase a refund, or stop bad legislation, we slow down the intrusion of government into our lives. Every time we get a Libertarian elected to some position somewhere in the great bowels of government, we gain a voice for freedom.

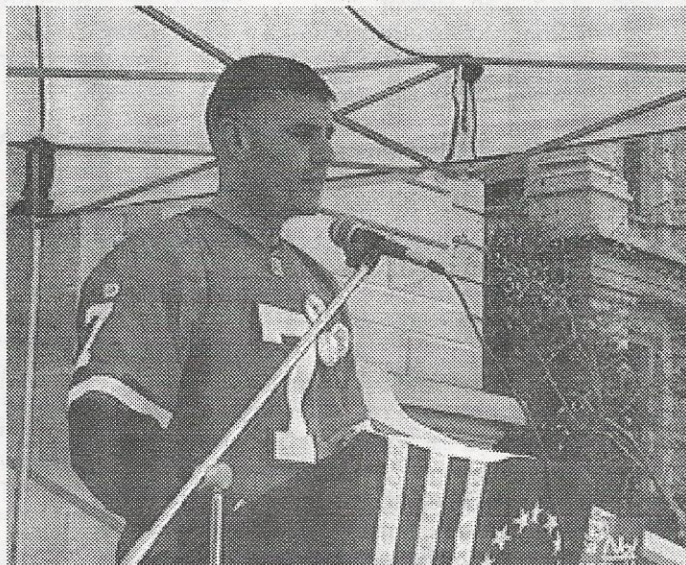
This election cycle has given us all of that and more. Did we stop all the bad taxes, legislation and government intrusion? No, but we stopped some of it, more than would have been done without our voices. Did we get all of our candidates elected? No, but we showed we made the difference between the success and failure of the major candidates. The major parties will be trying to gain our vote next time, which means they will be

moving government towards what we want.

We owe all these successes to the hard-working people who were candidates, campaign workers, office staff, board members, and, most of all, our MEMBERS, without whom we could not do any of this. By being a registered Libertarian to paying dues to making donations both of money

and time, our members made the biggest difference in our success. So before we dig in and start the strategy for the next election, let's take time to pat ourselves on the back for all that we have done this election. Everyone deserves a big THANK YOU!

*BetteRose Smith is the Fund Raising Director of the Libertarian Party of Colorado*



*Jesse Wilkins speaks against the tax that would take money from poor people and give it to rich football players. For those not acquainted with football, Jesse is wearing a jersey with John Elway's number on it. Jesse was also instrumental in putting up webpages for many of the Libertarian candidates in the election and worked closely with the Citizens Opposed to the Stadium Tax (COST).*

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# What Will Politicians Attack Next?

WASHINGTON, DC — A lawsuit filed by New Orleans Mayor Marc H. Morial against gun companies to recover the cost of firearms violence has Libertarians asking: "Who's next?"

"Which law-abiding industry will be the next target of greedy politicians?" asked Steve Dasbach, Libertarian Party national director. "Will they force Budweiser and Heineken to pay for the crimes of drunken, violent criminals? Will they extort money from McDonald's and Burger King to pay for heart bypass surgery, and compel Chrysler and Honda to pay the medical bills of car-crash victims?"

Dasbach's questions came in response to the lawsuit, now moving through the court system, which seeks to hold 15 major gun companies financially liable for the medical and police costs related to gun violence.

Morial is also actively encouraging other politicians across the country to follow his lead, and so far the mayors of Chicago, Philadelphia, Detroit, and Miami are weighing similar suits.

Vowing that "guns must now become the next tobacco," Morial has made it clear that the attack on gun companies will be modeled on the anti-tobacco lawsuits filed by 41 state attorneys general.

"If you thought politicians would be satisfied after extorting more than \$40 billion from tobacco companies, think again," Dasbach said. "That only whetted their appetite. Now the only question is, which industry will be next?"

Some possible targets:

- Barbecue grills: "It's absolutely clear that charcoal broiling is carcinogenic," says Michael Horowitz of the Hudson Institute, who predicts that the manufacturers of barbecue grills may soon be a litigation target.
- Wine and beer: "Every year, tens of thousands of Americans are killed in auto accidents, half of which are alcohol-related," Dasbach said. "If politicians can blame Smith & Wesson for murder in the streets, why can't they blame Busch & Budweiser for carnage on the highways?"
- Fatty foods: Yale University researcher Kelly Brownell warns that the country is plagued by an "out-of-control epidemic of obesity" that is causing diabetes, heart disease, and cancer. Her solutions including slapping a "fat tax" on certain foods and funneling the money into nutrition and public exercise programs, and restricting junk-food advertisements.
- Milk: Last year a Seattle man who describes himself as a "milk-a-holic" sued Washington state dairy farmers for contributing to his clogged arteries and a stroke.

"Many Americans never dreamed that the War on Tobacco could lead to a war on alcohol, fatty foods, barbecue grills, or even milk," Dasbach said. "But once the government has the power to sue companies in the name of public health, it's only a matter of time until the product that you like becomes their next target."

"Yes, violent crime is a serious problem — but what's really frightening is politicians using their political power to bankrupt businesses that make products they don't like, and in the process, destroying your freedom to use them."

The attack strategy against gun companies also demonstrates another important fact, Dasbach said. "Filing this lawsuit was a glaring admission by Mayor Morial that he has failed to perform the most basic function of government: Protecting people from violent crime."

"But instead of protecting public safety, he's committing a crime of his own: Extorting money from honest companies in order to pay for the crimes of street thugs."

*LP Media release*

## Dear Editor:

It's common for special interest groups to spend big bucks to get special favors from government. It's rare to find someone with the courage and conviction to stand up for average citizens — the people who get stuck with the tax bills for bigger government.

Douglas Bruce has generously donated money for years on behalf of taxpayers. He worked for 6 years to pass the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR) amendment that put reasonable limits on government growth in Colorado.

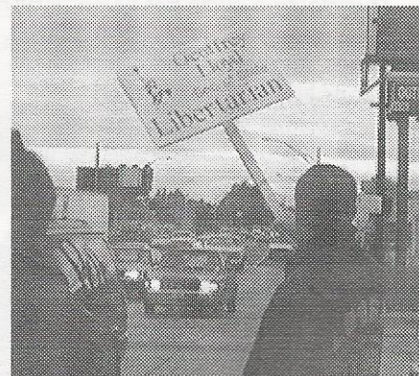
This year, the state wanted to keep an extra \$1 billion of our money. Fortunately, Doug donated \$50,000 to a winning campaign to return an average of \$2,500 to Colorado families over the next 5 years. This generosity is a matter of public record.

What many people don't realize is that he has also given thousands of hours of his time to the effort. And he has put up with years of slander and retaliation from government because of his role in tax limitation. We all owe him a lot.

We should remember that freedom isn't free. Douglas Bruce has shown he's willing to pay the price. The rest of us should also be willing to help. I sent a check to him because I want to see his work continue. I would encourage others to send 10% of their future refunds or at least \$100 to Doug Bruce, PO Box 26018, Colo Spgs, CO 80936. \$100 is only 4% of the average family's tax refunds of \$2,500.

*John K. Berntson, Colorado Springs*

Candidate Geoffrey Lloyd waves his sign for the commuters at 6th and Lincoln in Denver





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### U.S. Congressional District 2

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### U.S. Congressional District 3

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### U.S. Congressional District 4

Randy Fitzgerald (970) 223-6025  
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### U.S. Congressional District 5

Vacant and available; to volunteer, contact Warren Kruse at  
(303) 433-4604

### U.S. Congressional District 6

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If your area (or campus) doesn't have a local contact and you'd consider being one, please contact Outreach Director Tom Goonan. A local area can be anything that makes sense. It does not have to be a county.

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I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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What does the above pledge mean? We ask our members to disavow the *initiation* of force. This does not mean that you cannot defend yourself; you *do* have a right to defend your life, liberty, and property. It means that you cannot use the coercive power of government to forcibly achieve your personal, ethical, or religious goals. This commitment helps us maintain our principles and provides us with a measuring stick to determine if we have strayed from our common goal: a society where all relationships among persons are based on voluntary cooperation.

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